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Patent  
Case No.: 53415US038**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: HARDY, L. CHARLES

Application No.: 09/707,269

Confirmation No.: 9169

Filed: November 6, 2000

Title: METHOD OF MODIFYING A WAFER SUITED FOR  
SEMICONDUCTOR FABRICATION**RESPONSE**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR § 1.8(a)]**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:

☐ deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.☒ transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at 571-273-8300.May 23, 2006  
Date

Signed by: Daniel D. Biesterveld

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated January 23, 2006, in the above-identified application. This response is being filed along with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and is believed to be timely submitted in view of the accompanying petition for a one-month extension. It is believed that no additional fees are due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.